

100 12th Street
 Cresskill, NJ 07626
 December 5, 1999

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Via Fax 301-594-1830 and Regular Mail

Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine
 Food and Drug Administration
 Division of Compliance
 7500 Standish Place, HFV-230
 Rockville, Maryland 20855

Re: Petition number 99P-4613.

Dear Sir or Madam:

There is a group of citizens calling attention to the genetically engineered bovine growth hormone that caused cancer in the dairy cow test subjects. In addition, it increases the levels of the powerful hormone insulin-like growth factor one (IGF-1) in all cow's milk, a substance that figures prominently in the rapid growth and proliferation of mammary, prostate and colon cancers.

On November 7, 1999, Robert Cohen began a hunger strike to draw attention to the fact that America's milk and dairy products are now hazardous to consumers' health. I am very concerned about this health issue, especially for children, and I support the hunger strike and its goal for the immediate recall of Monsanto's Posilac hormone shot. According to Cohen:

- 1) Monsanto made an error by creating a "freak" amino acid
- 2) Lab animals treated with rbGH got cancer
- 3) Levels of hormones in rbGH-treated milk increase

According to Cohen: "The genetically engineered bovine growth hormone (rbGH) should immediately be taken off of the market. Monsanto tricked the FDA. They have a completely different drug on the market than the one that FDA approved. They changed the formula and did not tell FDA. Never before has an insult like this occurred. Monsanto should be fined and their executives jailed. Laboratory animals got cancer from this hormone (Richard, Odaglia and Deslex study) and FDA should act immediately to revoke rbGH."

I am writing to request full public access to the 180 day rbST test known as Richard, Odaglia & Deslex, 1989. This is a key Monsanto report that shows that rbST was responsible for causing cancer in laboratory animals.

Based on the findings of this report, I request the immediate recall of Monsanto's Posilac bovine growth hormone shot given to dairy cows because it constitutes a significant threat to public health. Most milk is "pooled": with 40% of Dairy farmers using Posilac this problem affects the majority of over 200 million Americans who consume cow's milk and dairy.

Sincerely,


 Zlatko Batistich

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